



May 2, 2007

The Federal Communication Commission  
Pilot Program for Enhanced Access to Advanced  
Telecommunications and Information Services

Greetings:

The Bellevue Hospital is pleased to participate in and support the proposed OneCommunity Rural Health Care project. This proposal, in response to the FCC announcement for a Rural Health Care Pilot Program, is designed to serve and benefit the Northeast Ohio Region. The Bellevue Hospital would serve as healthcare provider in the network of other hospitals in the network.

This project would greatly enhance the portability of patient information across the network of providers – doctors, free care rural clinics, acute care hospitals and tertiary hospital facilities. It would allow us the ability to easily transmit patient charts, radiology studies and other pertinent information to speed the process of transfers between facility, improving patient care and outcomes. It would allow us access to new specialty care that is not currently available in our area. Finally, it will give us the ability to link our medical staff electronically with the hospital, something that we could not afford to do as a small community based hospital.

This initial funding will allow the network to be established. Ongoing operating costs could be shared going forward on an agreed upon allocation.

This initiative would greatly complement health care in the rural market. It will give us the ability to establish state of the art communication systems thereby enhancing patient care and increase the access to health care and help reduce the overall cost and burden of the administrative task of medicine by decreasing response time and increasing connectivity.

I strongly encourage your consideration of this proposal. Please contact me at the number below, extension 4200, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Winthrop  
President